

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

3927 Lennane Drive, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 419-2510



CONTACT: John Carr
(916) 419-2525

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ABC Runs Minor Decoy Operation in Manteca

Investigators Visit 23 Locations and only Three Sell Alcohol to a Minor

Manteca - On Wednesday May 2, 2007, Investigators from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control conducted a minor decoy operation in the City of Manteca in an effort to raise awareness and reduce the availability of alcohol to minors. Three decoys working under law enforcement supervision visited 21 separate off-sale premises during the operation. There were three violations for sales of alcoholic beverages to a minor. The violations occurred at stores where the clerk failed to request identification from the decoy. Investigators from ABC's Stockton District Office, Special Operations Unit (SOU) and the Trade Enforcement Unit (TEU) conducted the operation as a proactive measure in preparation for an anticipated busy Cinco De Mayo weekend.

ABC is conducting the compliance checks state-wide to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors. Statistics have shown that young people under the age of 21 have a higher rate of drunken driving fatalities than the general adult population.

Those who sell alcohol to a minor face a minimum fine of \$250, and/or 24 to 32 hours of community service for a first violation. In addition, ABC will take administrative action against the alcoholic beverage license of the business. That may include a fine, a suspension of the license, or the permanent revocation of the license.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency.

ABC is a department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Dale E. Bonner, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.